

The State of Maryland



Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

**PARENT INVOLVEMENT MONTH
OCTOBER, 2009**

- WHEREAS,** *The children of Maryland are our most valuable resources and are the key to our state's future economic and social well-being. Education is the foundation of our democratic society and provides the opportunity for children to reach the highest levels of achievement and to live productive lives; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Maryland supports collaborative efforts that promote the academic achievement of children and encourages strong parent involvement through active and meaningful participation in their children's education, along with an established channel of communication between home and school; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Parent includes the natural parent, a legal guardian or other person standing in loco parentis (such as grandparent or stepparent with whom the child lives, or a person who is legally responsible for the child's welfare). Parents are their children's first and most influential teachers, and all parents and families have hopes and goals for their children; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Parent's involvement in children's education is a determining factor in children's academic success; and*
- WHEREAS,** *The Maryland State Department of Education, the Maryland State Parental Information and Resource Center, and the Maryland State Parent Teachers Association are available to assist schools, districts, and families with ideas and resources so that parents may engage more fully in their children's education and develop stronger connections with schools and communities; and*
- WHEREAS,** *When parents work with schools supported by communities in shared partnerships, children become lifelong learners and community contributors.*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARTIN O'MALLEY, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim **OCTOBER 2009** as **PARENT INVOLVEMENT MONTH** in Maryland, and do commend this celebration to all of our citizens.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,
this 1st day of October
Two Thousand and nine

Martin O'Malley
Governor

Robert E. Brown
Lt. Governor

Joe C. McPherson
Secretary of State